(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau

mauonai Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 13 October 2005 (13.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2005/096013 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7:

G01S 13/89

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/GB2005/001181

(22) International Filing Date: 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 0407511.5

2 April 2004 (02.04.2004) GH

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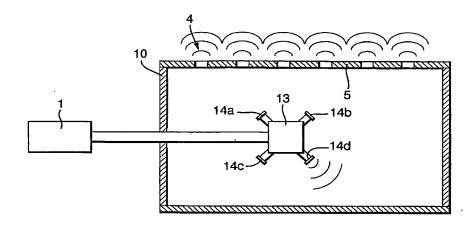
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- (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declaration under Rule 4.17:

of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IMPROVED MILLIMETRE AND SUB-MILLIMETRE WAVE ILLUMINATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An improved illumination system at millimetre and sub-millimetre wavelengths includes at least one primary source of radiation at the required wavelengths, a reflecting surface and a baffle comprising a plurality of exit apertures arranged such that at least some of the radiation from the source is reflected from the reflective surface before proceeding to the baffle, characterised in that means are incorporated for generating a plurality of radiation field states within a pre-determined time interval. The baffle, source and reflector are preferably packaged into a container with the exit apertures providing an illumination output. The generation of the plurality of radiation field states provides an illumination at the illuminator output that is less spatially variable when integrated over the pre-determined time interval. Embodiments of the invention show means for generating the plurality of radiation field states including relative movement of the reflective surface, variable positioning of the source with respect to the reflective surface, and including multiple sources within a single system.

'WO 2005/096013 A1



Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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